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OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

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Accompanied Messrs. Duckett and Bruce Clarke to a briefing of Jim Woolsey, General Counsel, Senate Armed Services
Committee, and Dorothy Fosdick and Richard Perle, of the Senate Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations staff. It covered Soviet strategic weapons systems including: ICBM and ABM programs, strategic aircraft, and submarine production. Similar programs for Communist China were also discussed. Woolsey seemed to express the feeling of the staff members when he said that the briefing presented a rather distressing picture, but he was grateful to us for bringing him up-to-date.

I asked Jim Woolsey what he thought the schedule would be for Senate consideration of the military procurement bill, especially provisions (like the Symington amendment) pertaining to programs in Laos and Southeast Asia generally. Woolsey said Chairman Stennis had sent a letter to Majority Leader Mansfield suggesting that the Senate consider the bill in three sections:

- (1) Provisions and amendments pertaining to U.S. military weapons programs.
 - (2) Provisions and amendments on Southeast Asia.
 - (3) End the war amendments.

Woolsey thinks the debate on weapons systems will take at least two weeks; therefore, he does not expect discussion on Southeast Asia until after the 1st of October at the earliest.

Benefits Subcommittee staff, who told me that he has forwarded a revised Committee print for reproduction and expects copies sometime during the day tomorrow. This print will contain for the first time complete exemption for the Agency in the four-year considerations of congressional measures relating to the invasion of privacy of Federal employees. Mark-up of the Committee print will continue in open session on Wednesday, 29 September.